



State of Utah
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

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January 12, 1995

Mr. Earl Gross
1478 West 500 North
Vernal, Utah 84078

Re: Reclamation Requirements, Annual Reports, Suspended Operations, Golden Rule Mining Company, Golden Rule Mine Project S/047/037, and Earl Gross, ML44152 Mine S/047/047, Uintah County, Utah

Dear Mr. Gross:

An inspection of the general area encompassing the project locations identified in the small mine notices S/047/037 and S/047/047 was recently performed by the Division. This inspection revealed the existence of some mining related disturbances in the general area. Division files indicate these projects have been inactive since 1989 and 1988, respectively. Minerals Rule R647-3-112 requires an operator to notify the Division of a termination or suspension of mining operations exceeding two years. The Division has not received any notification of termination or suspension for these operations to date.

Because of the disturbances remaining at the site, the Division cannot close out these files and release you from reclamation responsibility for the site. We do not have adequate documentation of the pre-existing disturbances in the area to determine which areas you are/are not, responsible for. There is also some confusion regarding responsibility for the disturbances due to the existence of the three notices filed in the same general area.

This general area is the site of an old gravel pit located in the NW/4 sec. 15, T6S, R22E. The disturbances in the old gravel pit area consist of: a large and irregularly shaped excavation into the gravelly soils, some smaller and separate excavations, some piles of cobble or gravel material, several basins/ponds, roads, ramps leading to the Green River, and minor amounts of wood or metal debris. There are several other disturbances located outside of the old gravel pit area. These other disturbances are to the west and northwest of the old gravel pit. These disturbances include earthen ramps, trenches, cobble/gravel piles, metal and wood debris, a semi trailer and trommel equipment(?). In addition, there is a power pole with transformers set up near the semi trailer. The total disturbance in this general area is estimated to exceed five acres. Revegetation by natural invasion has occurred in some portions of the disturbed areas. Photographs were taken during the inspection to document the present condition of the site.

In order to resolve the issue of reclamation responsibility, we propose an on site meeting with the various mine operators of record. If you have documentation of the disturbances existing in the



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area prior to your operations, please provide us with a copy of these items or bring them to the meeting. If you have an agreement with the landowner which includes language regarding reclamation of the site please provide us with a copy of the relevant documents. Weather permitting, we propose the **on site meeting to be held on Tuesday, April 4, 1995, 11:00 AM at the old gravel pit in section 15**. Please inform us if you or a representative cannot attend this meeting as soon as possible so we may reschedule it accordingly.

Annual reports for these two operations have not been received by the Division for a number of years (see the brief summary of Division files for both mines listed below). By failing to provide the requested annual reports for these operations you are in a state of noncompliance with R647-3-116 of the Minerals Rules and, therefore, also in noncompliance with the Utah Mined Land Reclamation Act. In order to remedy this situation you will need to provide the Division with annual reports for these operations for those years reports were not received in the file summaries. An annual report form is enclosed for your use. You may make additional copies of this form as needed. You should also have a report form that was mailed to you in December for reporting 1994; the report for 1994 is due January 31, 1995.

S/047/037 - Golden Rule Mine File Summary

This notice was originally filed with the Division in May 1989 with the operator listed as Golden Rule Mining Company. The legal description in the notice was S/2 NW/4 sec. 15, T6S, R22E. The annual reports for 1989, 1990 and 1991 indicated the mine was inactive during these times. Annual reports for the years 1992 and 1993 were requested by the Division, but were not received.

S/047/047 - ML 44152 File Summary

This notice was originally filed with the Division in October 1988 with Earl Gross listed as the operator. State Lands and Forestry granted approval to mine under lease ML 44152 also in October 1988. The legal description in the notice was S/2 SW/4 sec. 10; N/2 NW/4 sec. 15; NW/4 NE/4 sec. 15 T6S, R22E. The annual reports for 1988, 1989, and 1990 indicated the mine was inactive during these times. Annual reports for the years 1991, 1992, and 1993 were requested by the Division, but were not received. Lease ML 44152 was cancelled by State Lands (now known as SITLA, School Institutional Trust Lands Administration) in November 1990.

If you have any questions regarding this letter please do not hesitate to call me or Wayne Hedberg of the Minerals program.

Sincerely,



Anthony A. Gallegos
Senior Reclamation Specialist

jb
cc: John Blake, SITLA
Wayne Hedberg, DOGM